

# The Book

Newsletter of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture Published by the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts

## Willison to Give Tenth Wiggins Lecture

Ian Willison, a principal member of the editorial team supervising the multivolume *History of the Book in Britain* project, will deliver the tenth annual James Russell Wiggins Lecture in the History of the Book in American Culture at AAS on Wednesday, September 23. The 5:15 p.m. lecture is entitled "The History of the Book in Twentieth-Century Britain and America: Perspective and Evidence."

Willison is affiliated with the Center for English Studies at the University of London and is honorary consultant to the British Library.

As is customary following the lecture, a dinner will be held in the Society's Goddard-Daniels House at \$25.00 per person. Reservations are necessary and may be made by sending payment to Ann-Cathrine Rapp at the Society.

#### Collaborative History News

Some fifteen scholars will give papers at a conference at AAS Friday and Saturday, September 18-19, on topics relating to the history of the book in America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. We are sorry to report that this working conference is not open to the public; the papers are directly

related to the first volume of the collaborative history, and the purpose of the meeting is to carry forward the process of collaboration. To this end, several papers will deal with aspects of the book trades, others with literary culture (including the circulation of manuscripts), and still others with genres and ideologies.

We continue to invite persons interested in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries to inform us of their work.

An emerging aspect of the collaborative history is its relationship to the series being developed in Britain. That relationship will figure in an evening session of the conference, when two of the principal figures in the British series, David McKitterick and Michael Turner, report on their progress.

Some months ago the Editorial Board made the important decision, announced in the November 1991 issue of this newsletter, to extend the collaborative history into the twentieth century. The Board is pleased to announce that Carl Kaestle (University of Wisconsin) and Janice Radway (Duke University) will serve as co-editors of the volume dealing with this century.

In keeping with steps that have been taken for other volumes in the series (in particular, the "Needs and Opportunities" conference of 1984), Kaestle and Radway are



Pictured here are the second summer seminar's participants, faculty, and staff: (front row, left to right) Gregg, Martin, Casper, Alston, Neckerman; (second row) Halvorson, Groves, Stone, Hench; (third row) Zarobila, Ward, Kyler, Walkup, Burke, Renker; (fourth row) Hurff, Labuz, and Winship. See article, page 2.

organizing a planning conference, to occur in 1993, for the purpose of trying out major themes and interpretations. Funding for this conference (and for the one on the first volume to be held in September) has been provided by NEH, under the terms of a grant awarded in 1991 in support of the project. Questions abound for the twentieth century, among them how to deal with the so-called "end of the book," the changing corporate structure of publishing, and the "electronic age."

## Report on the 1992 Summer Seminars

[Editors' Note: The summer of 1992 marked the first time the AAS Program in the History of the Book in American Culture has held two seminars in one summer. Leader of both was Michael Winship, associate professor of English at the University of Texas at Austin and editor of Bibliography of American Literature. His account of the seminars follows. The staff of AAS are grateful to Winship for his excellent leadership of the seminars.]

This past June the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture sponsored and organized two week-long seminars. The first focused on a critical examination of the theoretical assumptions and the successes and limitations in practice of the various approaches to the history of the book. Key to this seminar were four afternoon sessions led by four visiting scholars currently working on different aspects of American book history: Mary Kelley (history, Dartmouth College), David Paul Nord (journalism, Indiana University), William J. Gilmore-Lehne (history, Stockton State College), and Philip F. Gura (English, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill). The second seminar introduced students to bibliographical approaches and skills necessary for the study of the nineteenth-century American book. Supplementing

morning lectures and class discussions were afternoon workshops designed to teach the techniques of bibliographical description and analysis. Both seminars had two evening sessions in Antiquarian Hall where students were exposed to the riches of the AAS reference and book collections. Both seminars were quickly filled from a pool of outstanding applications: there were a total of twenty-two participants in the first seminar, sixteen in the second. Five stalwart souls enrolled in both!

Attending the first of the two offerings, the Seminar in Critical Methods in the History of the Book in the United States were: Morton H. Baker, retired vice-president of the Trade Division, Houghton Mifflin Co.; Robin Bledsoe, antiquarian bookseller, Cambridge, Mass.; Martha Dennis Burns, Ph.D. candidate in history, Brown University; Morris L. Cohen, professor of law and former librarian, Yale Law School; Marilyn Davis-DeEulis, assistant professor of English, Marshall University; Ann de Klerk, director of library services, Bucknell University; Carolyn Eastman, special collections librarian, Portsmouth Athenaeum; Steven E. Gregg, editorial associate, ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, Washington State University; Jeffrey D. Groves, assistant professor of literature, Harvey Mudd College; Thomas A. Horrocks, director of the Library for Historical Services, College of Physicians of Philadelphia; James C. Keil, assistant professor of English, Howard University; Constance C. Koch, assistant librarian, Rare Book Library, Washington National Cathedral; Deanna B. Marcum, dean of the School of Library and Information Science, The Catholic University of America; Russell L. Martin III, Ph.D. candidate in English, University of Virginia; Elizabeth Renker, assistant professor of English, Ohio State University; Grantland S. Rice, Ph.D. candidate in English, Brandeis University; Stephen D. Small, M.D., Department of



Pictured are matriculants, faculty, and AAS staff in the first of this summer's two seminars in the history of the book: (front row, left to right) Hench, Yamada, Wortman, Snay, Groves, Keil, Stone; (middle row) Rice, Cohen, Koch, Bledsoe, Horrocks, Winship, Small, Eastman; (back row) Burns, Renker, Gregg, Gura, Baker, Davis-DeEulis, Gilmore-Lehne, Wright, DeKlerk, Marcum, Martin, and Nord.

Anesthesia, Massachusetts General Hospital, and instructor, Harvard Medical School; Mitchell Snay, assistant professor of history, Denison University; William J. Stone, Jr., associate professor of journalism-mass communication, University of Texas-Arlington; William A. Wortman, humanities librarian, Miami University; H. Curtis Wright, professor of library and information sciences, Brigham Young University; and Shiro Yamada, associate professor of American history, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan.

The sixteen matriculants at the Seminar in Bibliographical Approaches to the Nineteenth-Century Book in the United States were: Sandra Alston, Canadian specialist, University of Toronto Library; Bridget Burke, senior reference librarian, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution Libraries; Scott E. Casper, assistant professor of history, University of Nevada-Reno; Gregg; Groves; Hjordis Dommer Halvorson, reader services librarian, The Newberry Library; Carmen Russell Hurff, curator, rare books and manuscripts, the University of Florida Libraries; Carolyn Kyler, assistant professor of English, Washington and Jefferson College; Ronald Labuz, professor of advertising design, Mohawk Valley Community College; Martin; Gloria B. Neckerman, executive director, Project on Rhetoric of Inquiry, University of Iowa; Renker; Stone; Kathleen A. Walkup, visiting assistant professor of fine arts and letters and director, Book Arts Program-Eucalyptus Press, Mills College; Douglas B. Ward, Ph.D. candidate in

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communications, University of Maryland; and Charles Zarobila, head of periodicals, Grasselli Library, John Carroll University.

The seminars were a great success, thanks to the contributions of many people. Nancy Burkett and Joanne Chaison, assisted by the entire readers' services staff, gathered together materials from the collections for use in the seminar. Alan Degutis proudly showed off the Society's new online catalogue. Ann-Cathrine Rapp arranged for the meals, both varied and delicious, including one at the home of Loren and Nancy Ghiglione, who kindly invited members of the first seminar to examine and admire their collection of newspaper memorabilia. The four visiting scholars from the first seminar and many other scholars and fellows in residence at the Society were generous in discussing their projects with seminar participants. John Hench, assisted by Diane Schoen, did much more than manage administrative details smoothly; John and his wife, Lea, hosted a dinner each week for seminar participants at their home, and Diane was kept busy typing up invoices for AAS publications being purchased. But perhaps the greatest contribution came from participants themselves: without their tremendous enthusiasm, energy, and expertise, the seminars would never have succeeded.

Since the first one, organized and led by Stephen Botein in 1985, the summer seminars have been one of the most useful of the activities of the Program in the History of the Book in American Culture. They have brought together, inspired, and encouraged some of the best scholars, both young and old, now working in book history and have made many good friends for both the Program and the Society. I like to believe that the two 1992 seminars continued that tradition and look forward to future ones.

Michael Winship, University of Texas at Austin

## Literary Property and the Author

At the intersection of social and literary history stand the related topics of literary property and the emergence of the author. One of the chapters in Roger Chartier's L'Order du Livre (1992) deals with the figure of the author in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; other interesting material for the early modern period may be found in Peter Stallybrass and Allon White, The Politics and Poetics of Transgression (1985). For starters, Americanists can turn to the information and analysis in Lawrence Buell, New England Literary Culture (1986). The bibliographical suggestions that follow (for which we thank Roger Chartier) constitute a beginning on these subjects.

Amory, Hugh. "De Facto Copyright'? Fielding's Works in Partnership, 1769-1821," Eighteenth-Century Studies 17 (Summer 1984): 449-76.

Foucault, Michel. "Qu'est-ce qu'un auteur?," *Bulletin de la Societé Française de Philosophie* (Juillet-Septembre 1969). Réed. *Littoral*, no. 9, pp. 3-32.

Guerrini, Gemma. "Il Sistema di Comunicazione di un 'Corpus di Manoscritti Quattrocenteschi: I *Trionfi* del Petrarca," *Scrittura e Civiltá* 10 (1986): 121-97.

Kernan, Alvin. *Printing Technology, Letters, and Samuel Johnson* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1987).

Loewenstein, Joseph. "The Script in the Market Place," *Representations* 12 (Fall 1985): 101-14.

Rose, Mark. "The Author as Proprietor: *Donaldson v. Becket* and the Genealogy of Modern Authorship," *Representations* 23 (Summer 1988): 51-85.

Woodmansee, Martha. "The Genius and the Copyright: Economic and Legal Conditions of the Emergence of the 'Author'," *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 17 (Summer 1984): 425-48.

D.D.H

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#### Calls for Papers

A call has been issued for abstracts and original manuscripts for a collection tentatively entitled "Reading Books: The Artifact as Text and Context." The collection will focus on integrating analyses of the material text (for example, bindings, illustrations, and editorial addenda) with other critical and historical approaches to interpretation. Essays may be theoretical or may seek to explain, contextualize, or historicize one or more literary texts, from "high" or "popular" culture. The deadline for abstracts is September 15, 1992; that for manuscripts is November 15. Essays should be 5,000-7,000 words in length and in MLA style. Two copies should be sent to Lane Stiles, 207 Lind Hall, Department of English, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. A self-addressed stamped envelope is required for the return of manuscripts. . . . The Bibliographical Society of Canada has issued a call for papers for next year's annual conference on the theme of the history of the book in Canada. Papers should be approximately fortyfive minutes long, and may be considered for publication in the Papers/Cahiers, the society's refereed journal. The 1993 conference will take place in Hamilton, Ontario, tentatively on June 16. Inquiries and proposals (deadline January 15, 1993) should be sent to Eric L. Swanick, Legislative Library, P. O. Box 6000, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5Hl.

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